



Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

Rock Island, IL

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Rock Island was selected for a brownfields cleanup grant. Located on the Mississippi River, the city has faced a steady decline in population since 1960, due primarily to the closing of industrial plants. The city is targeting the Midway site, a former fueling station, bulk petroleum storage facility, and warehouse. The Midway site is contaminated by petroleum products from underground storage tanks and contains four structures that have been vacant for more than a decade. The brownfields target area has a population of 2,400, and 24 percent live below the poverty level. Unemployment is almost double the city average. More than 18 percent of the target area's residents are Hispanic, and total minority population is almost 30 percent. Following cleanup, this site and



Cleanup Grants

New
2003

\$95,750 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Rock Island for a brownfields cleanup grant. Petroleum funds will be used to conduct cleanup activities at the Midway site, a former fueling station, bulk petroleum storage facility, and warehouse. The property is contaminated by petroleum products from leaking underground storage tanks.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of Rock Island, IL
309-732-2920

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the City of Rock Island has not received brownfields grant funding.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

several others will become the Sylvan Slough Natural Area, a demonstration site for "Retain the Rain," a water-runoff reduction program designed to reduce pollutants entering the Mississippi River.